

INTISARI

Agenda global dalam tata kelola air yang adil dan berkelanjutan dengan melibatkan partisipasi masyarakat sedang digandrungi. Berbagai teknologi dan infrastruktur air dibuat agar dapat dikelola dan dirawat secara mandiri oleh masyarakat. Namun, tidak semua pembangunan infrastruktur berjalan dengan linear: direncanakan, dibangun, dan digunakan secara berkelanjutan. Melalui kerangka konseptual *temporal fragility*, penelitian etnografi ini mencoba memahami bagaimana infrastruktur mengalami fase kehidupan yang dipengaruhi oleh dan memengaruhi dinamika konfigurasi materialitas, temporalitas, afek, dan relasi sosial-politik-ekologis masyarakat.

Penelitian ini dilakukan di Dusun Embel, Desa Pandansari, Brebes selama 40 hari, yang terbagi dalam dua tahap; Oktober - November 2024 dan Februari - Maret 2025. Informan terdiri atas Ibu rumah tangga di Dusun Embel (9 orang); teknisi air swadaya (5 orang), petani (8 orang), dan perangkat desa dan pengurus KP-SPAMS (7 orang).

Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa setiap usaha, baik swadaya masyarakat maupun intervensi pemerintah, dalam memperluas dan menghapus ketimpangan akses air melalui pembangunan dan perawatan infrastruktur air, justru dalam kerjanya menghasilkan sebaliknya. Ketidakadilan ini tidak hanya dalam akses air, tetapi juga dalam distribusi beban kerja perawatan dan perbaikan infrastruktur, perbedaan status kewargaan, dan relasi sosial-ekologis.

Kata kunci: infrastruktur air, ketidakadilan, kerja, kewargaan, relasi sosial-ekologi

ABSTRACT

The global agenda for equitable and sustainable water governance, emphasizing community participation, has gained significant attention. Various water technologies and infrastructures have been designed to be locally managed and maintained by communities themselves. However, infrastructure development does not always unfold in a linear fashion: from planning, construction, to utilization. Drawing on the conceptual framework of temporal fragility, this ethnographic study explores how infrastructures undergo life phases that are shaped by—and simultaneously shape—the dynamic configurations of materiality, temporality, affect, and socio-political-ecological relations.

The research was conducted in Dusun Embel, Pandansari Village, Brebes, over a period of 40 days divided into two phases: October–November 2024 and February–March 2025. The informants consisted of housewives in Embel Hamlet (9 people); independent water technicians (5 people), farmers (8 people), and village officials and KP-SPAMS administrators (7 people).

The findings reveal that both community-led and state-driven aimed at expanding and correcting unequal access to water through infrastructure construction and maintenance often reproduce, rather than resolve, various forms of injustice. These injustices are not limited to water access, but also extend to the unequal distribution of infrastructural care and repair labor, differentiated citizenship status, and the configuration of socio-ecological relations.

Keywords: water infrastructure, inequalities, embodied labor, differentiated citizenship, socio-ecological relations